

In the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A dynamic network address registration system, comprising:

a first device;

a second device, said first device and said second device adapted to communicate via a communications network; and

a controller coupled to the internet and to a second communication network, said controller adapted to store a current dynamic network address for each of said first device and said second device therein, said controller operable to receive said current dynamic network addresses via the second communication network and to provide said current dynamic network address of said second device to said first device such that a virtual private network (VPN) can be efficiently established between said first device and said second device using the internet.

2. (cancelled)

3. (cancelled)

4. (currently amended) The dynamic network address registration system of Claim 1 wherein said first device, ~~said~~ and said second device are further adapted to be coupled to the second communication network.

5. (previously presented) The dynamic network address registration system of Claim 4 wherein said controller is adapted to inform said first device, via

said second communication network, as to whether or not said second device is coupled to the internet.

6. (previously presented) The dynamic network address registration system of Claim 4 wherein said controller is adapted to instruct said second device, via said second communications network, to couple to the internet.

7. (cancelled)

8. (Original) The dynamic network address registration system of Claim 4 wherein said second communications network is a circuit switched network.

9. (previously presented) A method for establishing a virtual private network (VPN) between a first device and a second device via the internet, said method comprising the steps of:

- a) said first device contacting a controller using a second communication network to determine the status of said second device;
- b) said first device obtaining, from said controller, a current dynamic network address for said second device; and
- c) establishing a VPN via the internet between said first device and said second device.

10. (previously presented) The method for establishing a VPN between a first device and a second device as recited in Claim 9 wherein said step a) comprises:

said first device obtaining from said controller, via the second communications network, information as to whether or not said second device is coupled to the internet.

11. (previously presented) The method for establishing a VPN between a first device and a second device as recited in Claim 10 wherein said step a) further comprises the step of:

al) provided said second device is not coupled to the internet, said first device instructing said second device, via said second communications network, to couple to the internet and to said controller.

12. (previously presented) The method for establishing a VPN between a first device and a second device as recited in Claim 10 wherein said step a) further comprises the step of:

al) provided said second device is not coupled to the internet, said controller instructing said second device, via said second communications network, to couple to the internet and to said controller.

13. (previously presented) The method for establishing a VPN between a first device and a second device as recited in Claim 9 wherein said step b) further comprises the step of:

b1) said first device providing said controller with a current dynamic address for said first device.

14. (previously presented) The method for establishing a VPN between a first device and a second device as recited in Claim 9 wherein said step c) comprises establishing said VPN between said first device and said second

device, via said communications network, using current dynamic network addresses of each of the first and second devices.

15. (cancelled)

16. (cancelled)

17. (previously presented) The method for establishing a VPN between a first device and a second device as recited in Claim 9 wherein said second communications network is a circuit switched network.

18. (previously presented) A controller for efficiently establishing a virtual private network (VPN) between a first device and a second device via the internet, said controller comprising:

- means for coupling said controller to the internet;

- means for storing a current dynamic network address for said first device received via a second communication network;

- means for storing a current dynamic network address for said second device received via the second communication network;

- means for providing said current dynamic network address of said second device to said first device such that said VPN can be established between said first device and said second device via the internet.

19.-20 (cancelled)

21. (previously presented) The controller of Claim 18 wherein said first device, said second device, and said controller are further adapted to be coupled to the second communications network.

22. (previously presented) The controller of Claim 21 wherein said controller is adapted to inform said first device, via said second communications network, to couple to the internet.

23. (previously presented) The controller of Claim 21 wherein said controller is adapted to instruct said second device, via said second communications network, to couple to the internet.

24. (cancelled)

25. (Original) The controller of Claim 21 wherein said second communications network is a circuit switched network.

26.-45. (cancelled)